

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention relates to a process for the production of conjugated linoleic acid, in which (a) linoleic acid lower alkyl esters containing 1 to 5 carbon atoms in a linear or branched alkyl chain are isomerized in the presence of alkali metal alcoholates, (b) the then conjugated linoleic acids are released from the ester after saponification, and (c) the free linoleic acids are subjected to crystallization. The crystallization step of said method provides a cost-effective option for producing conjugated linoleic acids with a high purity and excellent storage stability, in particular in low temperatures.